



LOUISIANA SENATE

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Senator La Fleur Honored for Efforts to Advance French-speaking Cajun and Creole Culture

BATON ROUGE – Acadiana Delegation member Eric LaFleur (Senator, D-Ville Platte) was recognized this week for his efforts to advance French-speaking Cajun and Creole culture.

Lt. Gov. Jay Dardenne and Dr. Bill Arceneaux, president of the Council for Development of French in Louisiana (CODOFIL), granted LaFleur an award called “*Le Prix De La Franco Responsabilite*”

LaFleur is only the second recipient of the award, granted for living up to the “responsibility” of preserving one’s French heritage. LaFleur was recognized for his continued efforts in supporting French immersion studies and continued support of French-speaking culture.

During his service in the Louisiana House and Senate, LaFleur successfully promoted legislation to reorganize CODOFIL and making its primary mission to developing and promoting the French language with the preservation and expansion of French immersion schools in Louisiana.



CODOFIL President Dr. Bill Arceneaux and Lt. Governor Jay Dardenne present Senator Eric LaFleur with the *Le Prix De La Franco-Responsabilite* award at the 2014 Louisiana Culture Awards Gala at the Louisiana State Museum in Baton Rouge.

LaFleur successfully argued for the development of the *Renaissance Louisiane* program, which provided additional grant funding for schools that created new or expanded existing French immersion programs.

Today, Louisiana has the largest number of students in French immersion programs in the United States.

CODOFIL’s published mission includes “...promote our French culture, heritage, and language,” and “...To promote, develop, and oversee cultural and educational relations and exchanges within the state...”

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